

Produced For Personnel of KFOR Multi-National Brigade (East)

# Guardian East

Volume 10, Issue 14

June 2, 2004



Camp Bondsteel's  
**BIG SHOW**

page 10

# Message to the troops



By Maj. Robert Covert,  
Commander TF Desperado

I am often asked, "Are we making a difference in Kosovo?" I always answer, YES. Multi-national Brigade (East) is an excellent example for the people of Kosovo. We are made up of varied cultures, religious and ethnic backgrounds, yet we still work together towards a better common goal. We provide a safe and secure environment so the people of Kosovo can discover that they can live and work together regardless of differences.

One of the great aspects of this deployment is the opportunity to work and train with Soldiers from other units as well as soldiers from other countries. It is a great opportunity to see how other units do things and learn from them to improve yourself and

your unit. It is also good to see how all of the pieces fit into the big picture. Every soldier and the jobs they do are critical to the success of the mission and no one should think otherwise.

With the Army's current operations tempo, the line between Active Duty, National Guard and Reserve is very blurred. There are several National Guard and Reserve units that have been deployed more than some Active Duty units. Each of us should be proud to be a Soldier and of the sacrifice that we have all made to participate in this mission. We should also be very proud of the families that we left at home and all of the things they are doing for us until we return home. The families are definitely the unsung heroes.

We are more than half way done with our tour in Kosovo. I



**Maj.  
Robert Covert**

know everyone had goals that they wanted to achieve before they left Kosovo. Now is the time to evaluate the progress you have made towards those goals or if you have already achieved them, then now is the time to set new goals.

The Army has been receiving a lot of bad press lately. The thing that has been missed is, when someone in the Army breaks the law or standards, we police him or her up and prosecute him or her, and we do not ignore it or try to cover it up. I will close with article VI of the U.S. Armed Forces Code of Conduct: "I will never forget that I am an American, fighting for freedom, responsible for my actions, and dedicated to the principles, which made my country free. I will trust in my God and in the United States of America."

**"I VOLUNTEER SIR!"**

## SEE THE PHOTO OF THE DAY

[www.mnbe.hqusareur.army.mil](http://www.mnbe.hqusareur.army.mil)



Submissions or story ideas related to the MNB(E) mission are encouraged. Send regular mail to MNB(E) PAO, Attn: Editor, Camp Bondsteel, APO AE 09340; send e-mail to [guardianeast@bondsteel2.aur.army.mil](mailto:guardianeast@bondsteel2.aur.army.mil). **COVER: SPC. Dana Clair, an MP with the 514th MP Company, provides over-watch for the Perimeter Response Force during a recent Force Protection Exercise. Photo by SPC. Tim Grooms.**

*See page 10 for the story*

## Guardian East

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### About Guardian East

Guardian East is an official publication of KFOR Multi-National Brigade (East) produced to provide command information to service members in MNB(E). Guardian East is produced by the 29th Mobile Public Affairs Detachment, Army National Guard, Baltimore, Md. Contents of Guardian East are not necessarily official views, nor endorsed by the U.S. government, the Department of Defense, the Department of the Army or the 34th Infantry Division. Guardian East is published biweekly using offset press by the MNB(E) Public Affairs Office, Building 1320, Camp Bondsteel, APO AE 09340. Printed circulation is 3,000.





## Greeks Lend a Hand

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**Camp Bondsteel's Force Protection Exercise gets everyone involved.**

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## Guarding the East

**Soldiers from Camp Monteith patrol an area along the Administrative Boundary Line with Serbia.**

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*Sgt. Mark Radford, right, the Perimeter Response Force leader and a member of the 514th Military Police Company, checks simulated casualty, Master Sgt. Richard Fisher, a battle captain with the 330th Medical Brigade, for injuries. Photo by Spc. Tim Grooms. See page 10 for the story.*

# — Borderline

Story and photo by Spc. Rob Barker

**W**hile the half-mile-long line of civilian vehicles waits at the customs checkpoint separating Kosovo from the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, each car and truck being carefully inspected for illegal activity, a single small car pulls off the main road, avoiding the congestion and the customs area, moving quickly along a narrower path. No, the car isn't breaking the law. It's taking advantage of the KFOR bypass being run by Greek soldiers.

Working outside their sector in an effort to assist the Polish-Ukrainian Battalion, soldiers of the Greek 525th Mechanized Infantry Battalion are providing coverage of the KFOR vehicle checkpoint on the border with the FYROM.

"It is not in our boundaries," said the checkpoint's deputy commander, Greek 1st Lt. Panagiotis Chionis. "We are doing it to assist the Polish."

There are currently Greek and Armenian soldiers assigned to the small road that runs parallel to the customs access point. Soldiers work at both ends of the road, opening the gates and checking identification, and others work in an administrative building.

"We normally work five at a time at the checkpoint," said Chionis. "We stay pretty busy."

While working the border, their main job is to check for identification of drivers and provide an alternate route for KFOR members.

"We check for yellow KFOR ID cards and provide a quicker route for vehicles," said Chionis. "If we didn't have the bypass, a lot of time would be taken up going through customs."

The bypass also serves as a way to get on to main roads from small villages in the mountains near the fixed site.

"It's a resident," said 1st Lt. Vasileios Athanasiadis, a company commander with the battalion, as he pointed to the small car approaching the gate. "This is the only way for them to access the main roads. The soldiers assigned to this position know which vehicles belong to the residents."

Although the checkpoint is an additional duty for the soldiers, it does come with a few benefits.

"It gives us the opportunity to spend time out of our sector, and see other parts of Kosovo," said Chionis.







***Greek Pvts. Apostolos Pacsellis, left, and Vasileios Gounelas, infantrymen with the 525th Mechanized Infantry Battalion, stand guard at the KFOR bypass at the border between Kosovo and the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia.***



# Veterin



*Sgt. Mark Plumer, a veterinary technician with the 422nd Medical Detachment (Veterinary Services), prepares a vaccine to be given to a cow during a Veterinary Civilian Assistance Program visit.*



*Maj. Marta Acha, commander of the 422nd, applies a de-wormer to a cow during the VETCAP.*



# ary Aid



STORY AND PHOTOS BY SPC. TIM GROOMS

**T**he 422nd Medical Detachment (Veterinary Services) is currently finishing up the first ever Veterinary Civilian Assistance Program for Multi-national Brigade (East). They have conducted three of four missions scheduled for the current program, which have all been scheduled for May in the Gnjilane/ Gjilan municipality.

One of the main reasons for the program is to get local citizens used to civilian veterinarians, which is similar to a Medical Civilian Assistance Program in the sense of introducing the local doctors who will be the primary care givers in the future, said Maj. Marta Acha, commander of the 422nd and resident of Arlington, Va.

"A lot of the purpose of VETCAP and MEDCAP is to work with the people that are here in the same profession, hopefully an actually mixed ethnic group to get these programs on board and get it out to where people realize that their own can take care of them," she said.

The unit started planning the program in November and intended to start the missions in March, but delays in receiving the supplies and the riots held up the program until May.

"Of course, because of the riots everything was cancelled. I'll be honest I wasn't sure we would ever be able to do it," said Acha.

Once the missions began in May, the unit found that one of the largest problems with the animals was skin parasites, said Sgt. Mark Plumer, a veterinary technician with the unit and resident of Frederick, Md.

"A lot of them have bots where you have fly larva underneath the skin, ringworm, and dogs can have mange mites," he said.

Many of the diseases and parasites the animals have can be transmitted to humans so it is important to have VETCAPs to keep the animals healthy, Acha said.

"A lot of these diseases are what we call zoonotic, which means they can be transferred to people," she said. "Getting rid of animal disease can help keep humans from getting diseases."

Kosovo is not the first place the veterinarians have seen these types of problems. The unit has also been to South and Central America to conduct VETCAPs and noticed similarities in diseases.

"Basically, in all these countries you see a lot of diseases that are totally preventable and they don't have the money to pay for vaccines or de-wormers," Acha said. "In the states, a lot of stuff we are doing is done by the farmers themselves where they can go and buy the vaccines."

From the heat of the tropical zones in South and Central America to the highlands of Kosovo, members of the 422nd have performed VETCAPs to help the local population of other countries and provinces, giving aid to thousands of their animals.

"It makes you feel good to help, because you know with giving these vaccines it's helping their animals out for another year and maybe can even help with the economy a little with the health care of their animals," said Plumer.



*For the first time since fleeing the area in 1999, a group of Kosovo-Serb farmers cultivate their fields near Zegra.*



*Farmers bring their equipment back to their fields for the first time in five years.*



*Farmers load seed and fertilizer matic seeder.*



# LAYING THE GROUNDWORK

STORY AND PHOTOS BY SGT. JON SOUCY

The sound of voices speaking in halting Spanish drifted across the field and mixed with the sounds of the time-worn red tractors pulling different farming implements as they moved slowly and deliberately up and down rows of freshly plowed earth, preparing the land for new crops. Kosovo-Serb farmers were at the controls of the machines after recently returning to their fields near Zegra, and the Spanish speaking voices were those of Soldiers from the 448th Civil Affairs Battalion, who were practicing Spanish as they provided security for the farmers.

Zegra is one of many towns throughout Kosovo that bear some of the most visible scars from fighting that occurred in the late 1990s. Prior to 1999, Zegra was a town with a population mixed with ethnic Albanians and Serbs.

During the conflict, the area was one of many targeted by Serb paramilitary forces acting under the command of Slobodan Milosevic, said Capt. Scott Schroeder, the civil-military operations officer with Task Force Redhorse, and a resident of Des Moines, Iowa. The clashes caused local Serbs and Albanians in the town to flee the area to other towns within Kosovo or to neighboring countries, said Schroeder, and the path that brought the farmers back to their fields was a long one.

"[The farmers] were very scared to go near Zegra," said Schroeder. "We had to address their security concerns."

Many of the farmers had their farming equipment destroyed during the conflict in 1999, said Schroeder, but with donations of equipment and supplies from several international aid organizations and Soldiers providing a reassuring presence as the farmers worked their fields, the farmers were able to return to their land.

"Before the conflict was the last time they've been able to go into their fields and cultivate," said Staff Sgt. Tom Mechem, a civil affairs specialist from Seattle, Wash., with the 448th Civil Affairs Battalion, "so it's a pretty big deal."

And the Soldiers involved said they feel that getting the farmers back to their fields is a step in healing the wounds left by the violence of 1999.

"I think it's good," said Staff Sgt. Ed Baddeley, of Shelton, Wash., also a civil affairs specialist with the 448th. "I feel that they need to be out there. This is how they live. This is how they survive."

With the traditional ethnic tensions in Kosovo, the Soldiers said they expected some difficulties in returning the farmers to their fields.

"It causes conflict," said Mechem, "but it needs to happen and it's better that it happens now while we're here so we can provide security. This is their land and that's the bottom line."

Despite the anticipation of potential conflict, the return of the farmers has been met with little resistance.

"The only overt backlash was one day on the way to the fields there was a group of 18 to 21-year-old guys who yelled ethnic slurs at the Serbs," said Schroeder.

Overall, Mechem said the mission has been a peaceful success.

"It's been a really positive thing," said Mechem. "Albanian farmers come up to them and shake hands with them." There have also been a few instances where local Serb and Albanian farmers have negotiated agreements for using each others' land, he said.

The farmers said they are glad to start working their land despite returning weeks after neighboring farmers started planting crops.

"They're happy," said Mechem. "I don't think they're happy with what their crop yield will be this year, but it's a symbolism thing."

The Soldiers said they hope the rest of Kosovo can learn from the farmers in Zegra, leading to days when the sounds of voices speaking Albanian and Serbian can be heard floating across the fields instead of the choppy Spanish of Soldiers providing security.



into an auto-





*Simulated casualties await medical treatment during the final event of Operation Big Show.*



# the Big Show

and photos by Spc. Tim Grooms





# The Big Show

Life around Camp Bondsteel was a little more hectic than usual, May 13 through 15. There were protesters at Gate One, a Soldier tossed from a white van with an improvised explosive device attached to him and a mortar attack at the base theater.

Maj. John Perkins of Johnston, Iowa, the training officer for Multi-national Brigade (East) with Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 34th Infantry Division, said the events were part of a three-day exercise to test the readiness of first responders as well as others that normally would not be involved with everyday base security. There were various schemes used during the event to simulate what could possibly happen if there was an attack on base.

"First we had a crowd of protesters at the front gate. That forced us to close the gate and then there was an injury there so we had to respond with the MP's [Military Police] and medics on that. Another one was the guards discovering an improvised explosive device at the gate," Perkins said. "The final event, which was really the culminating event, was a mortar attack on the theater."

Part of the exercise was to see how long it took units to respond.

"We were timing the response of each organization," Perkins said. "Within four minutes we had first responders on the scene and the MPs."

The exercise yielded improvements in communication on base defense between the Area Support Group and the task force.

"I think the most improved area was the coordination between the task force, the ASG which is responsible for base camp defense here, and also the civilian contractors here that provide base camp defense," said Perkins.



*Staff Sgt. Jonathan Kirk, a team leader with the 75th Ordnance Company (Explosive Ordnance Disposal), prepares a simulated mortar round for removal from the theater parking lot during the FPX.*



*Camp Bondsteel's Fire Department puts out a burning vehicle during the recent Force Protection Exercise.*



David Burkman, the force protection program manager, said the exercise served its purpose and validated Camp Bondsteel's force protection plan.

"The exercise did what it was supposed to do," he said. "The exercise basically showed what we can do in a mission and showed some concerns we had. It validates the force protection plan and that is what the exercise is all about."

After being a player in the exercise, Staff Sgt. Jonathan Kirk, a team leader with the 75th Ordnance Company (Explosive Ordnance Disposal), said those involved with force protection would do well in an actual event.

"I learned that we have a good group here to work with and feel confident if we ever have a situation that arises in this manner we will succeed," the Monroe, Mich. resident said.

The event proved to be a great learning experience for many people.

"I learned that in the event of a disaster here on Camp Bondsteel, I will be in good hands," said Staff Sgt. Andrew Winzenburg, a Sauk Rapids, Minn.

resident and part of Headquarters and Headquarters Company's Forward Logistics Element. "The fire department, Task Force Med, and the MPs are all well trained and ready to handle anything that comes their way."

Three days of exercise events gave personnel involved the chance to learn what could happen and how to respond if an attack occurred. Also, improvements will be passed on to the next rotation of MNB (E) Soldiers.

"It's a good thing to practice and we have some great lessons learned to give the follow-on force when our turn here in Kosovo is over," said Burkman.



***Spc. Jason Parvitz, a ground ambulance driver with Task Force Medical Falcon, checks a patient with a simulated face burn during the final day of Operation Big Show.***





*Followed by other Soldiers in his unit, Staff Sgt. Don Griffin, a squad leader with Alpha Troop, 1-113th Cavalry, makes his way up a steep hill during a routine patrol in an area along the Administrative Boundary Line with Serbia.*





A photograph of soldiers in a field. In the foreground, a soldier's arm and hand are visible on the left. In the background, two other soldiers are visible in a field of tall grass and brush. The title 'GUARDING THE EAST' is overlaid in large, white, outlined letters.

# GUARDING THE EAST

STORY AND PHOTOS BY SGT. JON SOUCY



# GUARDING THE EAST

In a recent patrol of Kosovo's Administrative Boundary Line with Serbia, Soldiers with Alpha Troop, 1-113th Cavalry, prevented a possible death. As the squad moved through the area, they came to the aid of a turtle, which was struggling to right itself after it had somehow ended up on its back, by flipping the distressed reptile back onto its feet. As the patrol continued on its way across the landscape of rocky trails and hills, the turtle didn't seem too out-of-sorts.



*Sgt. Grant Ogle, a squad leader with Alpha Troop, 1-113th Cavalry scans an area along the Administrative Boundary Line with Serbia during a routine patrol.*

Saving the turtle was a good deed, but wasn't the Soldiers' main task. They were conducting a routine patrol of the ABL as a way to counter possible smuggling and other activities in the area.

"Our mission is to look for land mines and possible drug smuggling routes and to see if there has been any activity along the ABL," said Staff Sgt. Don Griffin, a squad leader from Ankeny, Iowa.

For the Soldiers in the unit, the patrol started off with a flight in a UH-60 Blackhawk helicopter which dropped them off in the area to be patrolled. From there it was a roughly 10 kilometer walk that covered a variety of terrain including steep hills, underbrush and crossing a shallow, but wide, stream. The path that was taken had its effects on the Soldiers on the patrol.

"It was rough," said Pfc. Nicholas Ranch, a Des Moines, Iowa, resident and Scout with the unit, after returning to Camp Monteith from the patrol. "But it was good exercise."

Others shared his opinion.

"It was a long walk," said Sgt. Grant Ogle, a squad leader from Reinbeck, Iowa. "The hills were definitely the worst. Being a Tanker, I'm used to riding, not walking."

As a Tanker, Ogle's preferred transportation may be an M1A1 Abrams tank, but most of the patrols he has taken part in here have used HMMWVs for at least part of the mission. And for Ogle the patrol



along the ABL added a bit of variety to routine patrols.

“It’s nice to get out of the HMMWV and see the countryside,” said Ogle. “It was a good change of pace.”

The Soldiers also learned a few pointers for the next time they have to complete a long dismounted patrol.

“If I have to do it again I would pack a little lighter,” said Ogle

Even with the long walk and the hills, many of the Soldiers said they feel the patrols are worth the work and have been effective in countering smuggling in the area.

“Just our presence here is keeping drug smugglers from crossing the border,” said Ogle, who added that their presence also generally keeps the number of illegal border crossings in the area down.

And for the Soldiers that is part of the overall mission of providing a safe and secure environment for all who live in Kosovo—including turtles.

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**“Just our presence here is keeping drug smugglers from crossing the border,”**

**-Sgt. Grant Ogle, a squad leader with Alpha Troop, 1-113th Cavalry-**

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***Soldiers from Alpha Troop, 1-113th Cavalry, make their way through a stream during a patrol along the Administrative Boundary Line with Serbia.***



# Life at the **FARP**

Story and photo by Spc. Sean McCollum

**T**wenty-four hours a day, seven days a week, the personnel of the Forward Area Refueling Point are ready to provide fuel for the helicopters of Camp Bondsteel, and the petroleum specialists of the 4-278th Armored Cavalry Regiment are ever watchful for their enemies: water and static electricity. Either of these factors could seriously damage a helicopter and potentially kill Soldiers.

"Knowing you're responsible for a lot of people's lives is a really hard job," said Sgt. Stanley Walker, a petroleum specialist from Knoxville, Tenn. "But it's a rewarding one."

One of the chief dangers the petroleum specialists have to deal with is static electricity, which a helicopter naturally collects during flight. When it lands to refuel and the team attaches the hoses to the helicopter, the slightest spark could ignite the fuel being pumped into the aircraft, said Staff Sgt. Ralph Dennis, a petroleum supply non-commissioned officer from Clarksville, Tenn. To combat this threat, the team connects metal rods to the fuel lines so any excess electricity is safely diverted to the ground and away from the combustible fuel.

The FARP personnel are also concerned with the quality of the fuel they provide the aircraft. The regular temperature changes in Kosovo can cause condensation in the fuel storage containers, increasing the water content of the fuel. The team has to carefully monitor the water content since as little as ten parts of water per million parts of fuel is enough to damage the helicopter engines, said Dennis. To ensure the fuel is safe for the aircraft, the Soldiers perform what's known as an "Aqua-Glo" test every day. They keep the water content of the fuel down to no more than three parts per million.

In an environment where every potential danger is carefully controlled, there is one thing the Soldiers have to contend with that is beyond their control.


"The main challenge is the weather," said Dennis.

On a sunny day when the weather is cooperating and the helicopters are flying, an eight-hour shift at the FARP can include the Soldiers servicing more than 14 helicopters, Dennis said. On the days when Kosovo's finicky weather hampers helicopter flight, there may not be any aircraft that require refueling during an eight-hour shift.

Even on the days the helicopters are not flying often, the FARP is staffed and the Soldiers are ready to work if they are needed. This might cause them to spend an entire shift without seeing an aircraft, and the sometimes significant downtime gives the crew, which is on its first deployment together, a chance to get to know each other in a way not possible one weekend per month, and two weeks each year.

"We work better together, learn more about each other," said Walker. "More about everybody's background, what they do, what they like."

They may have a tough job involving danger, responsibility and the occasional boring afternoon, but the Soldiers who run the FARP do it every day and keep Camp Bondsteel's helicopters flying.



*Sgt. Eric McGowan, a petroleum supply specialist with the 4-278th Armored Cavalry Regiment, waits for a helicopter at the forward area refueling point on Camp Bondsteel.*



# Visit your education center to sign up for classes today.

## ARMY EDUCATION CENTER BONDSTEEL

### Jun-Jul 2004 Term V College Schedule

Course #	Title	Instructor	Days	Hours	Credit	Location	Start	End
UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND								
ACCT 220	Principals of Accounting I	Denis	Mo/We	1830-2130	3	3	7-Jun-04	28-Jul-04
ACCT 221	Principals of Accounting II	Denis	Tu/Th	1830-2130	3	3	8-Jun-04	29-Jul-04
ALBN 111	Elementary Albanian I	Haxhiu	Mo/We	1830-2130	3	Testing Room	7-Jun-04	28-Jul-04
ALBN 112	Elementary Albanian II	Haxhiu	Tu/Th	1830-2130	3	Testing Room	8-Jun-04	29-Jul-04
BIOL 101	Concepts of Biology	Radenbaugh	Tu/Th	1830-2130	3	2	8-Jun-04	29-Jul-04
BIOL 161 & 164	Human Anatomy & Physiology w/ Lab	Jester	Mo/We	1800-2200	4	1	7-Jun-04	28-Jul-04
BIOL 211	Environmental Science	Radenbaugh	Fr/Su	0900-1200	3	2	11-Jun-04	1-Aug-04
BMGT 380	Business Law I	Cummings	Mo/We	1830-2130	3	1340D-6N HHC	7-Jun-04	28-Jul-04
COMM 390	Writing for Managers	Donnellan	Fr/Su	0900-1200	3	4	11-Jun-04	1-Aug-04
ENGL 101*	Introduction to Writing	Donnellan	Fr/Su	1830-2130	3	4	11-Jun-04	1-Aug-04
GEOL 100 & 110	Physical Geology w/ Lab	Radenbaugh	Fr/Su	1800-2200	4	2	11-Jun-04	1-Aug-04
GERM 111	Elementary German I	Ashforth	Mo/We	1830-2130	3	5	7-Jun-04	28-Jul-04
GERM 112	Elementary German II	Ashforth	Tu/Th	1830-2130	3	5	8-Jun-04	29-Jul-04
GVPT 170	American Government	Jonna	Tu/Th	1830-2130	3	6	8-Jun-04	29-Jul-04
GVPT 457	American Foreign Relations	Jonna	Mo/We	1830-2130	3	6	7-Jun-04	28-Jul-04
IFSM 300	Information Systems in Organizations	Williams	Mo/We	1830-2130	3	2	7-Jun-04	28-Jul-04
IFSM 320	Office Automation	Williams	Tu/Th	1830-2130	3	TBA	8-Jun-04	29-Jul-04
MATH 012*	Intermediate Algebra	Arangno	Fr/Su	0900-1200	3	7	11-Jun-04	1-Aug-04
MATH 107**	College Algebra	Arangno	Tu/Th	1830-2130	3	7	8-Jun-04	29-Jul-04
MATH 130**	Calculus A	Arangno	Fr/Su	1830-2130	3	7	11-Jun-04	1-Aug-04
MGST 140	Personal Financial Management	Denis	Fr/Su	0900-1200	3	3	11-Jun-04	1-Aug-04
SPCH 100	Introduction to Public Speaking	Ashforth	Mo/We	1830-2130	3	7	7-Jun-04	28-Jul-04
SPCH 100	Introduction to Public Speaking	Donnellan	Tu/Th	1830-2130	3	4	8-Jun-04	29-Jul-04

\*Math and English courses marked with an \* require placement test prior to enrollment.

\*\*Prerequisites will be enforced.

Course #	Title	Instructor	Days	Hours	Credit	Location	Start	End
CENTRAL TEXAS COLLEGE								
CJSA 2300	Legal Aspects of Law Enforcement	Dietz	Mo/We	1830-2130	3	4	7-Jun-04	28-Jul-04
CJSA 1313	Court Systems and Practices	Dietz	Tu/Th	1830-2130	3	1	8-Jun-04	29-Jul-04
CJSA 1322	Intro to Criminal Justice	Storlie	Sa/Su	1400-1700	3	6	12-Jun-04	1-Aug-04
CJSA 1342	Criminal Investigations	Storlie	Sa/Su	1800-2100	3	6	12-Jun-04	1-Aug-04

Seminar #	Title	Instructor	Days	Hours	Credit	Location	Start	End
UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND								
CMST 100A-1	Introduction to Microcomputers	Williams	Su	0800-1700	1	Computer Lab	6-Jun-04	13-Jun-04
CMST 100B-1	Introduction to Microsoft Word	Williams	Su	0800-1700	1	Computer Lab	20-Jun-04	27-Jun-04
CMST 100F-1	Introduction to Microsoft Access	Deuti	Mo/Tu	1800-2200	1	Computer Lab	7-Jun-04	15-Jun-04
CMST 100D-1	PowerPoint	Deuti	We/Th	1800-2200	1	Computer Lab	9-Jun-04	17-Jun-04
CMST 100G-1	Introduction to Microsoft Excel	Deuti	Mo/Tu	1800-2200	1	Computer Lab	21-Jun-04	29-Jun-04
CMST 100K-1	Accessing Information via the Internet	Deuti	We/Th	1800-2200	1	Computer Lab	23-Jun-04	1-Jul-04
EDCP108A	Resume Writing	Ashforth	Sa	0800-1700	1	5	19-Jun-04	26-Jun-04
ENGL 289H	Arabian Nights	Ashforth	Sa	0800-1700	1	5	17-Jul-04	24-Jul-04
ENGL 389S	The Worlds of Harry Potter	Donnellan	Sa	0800-1700	1	4	3-Jul-04	10-Jul-04

### Camp Monteith Schedule

UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND CLASSES								
Course #	Title	Instructor	Days	Hours	SH	Room	Start	End
ACCT 220	Principles of Accounting I	Denis	FrSu	1830-2130	3	301	11-Jun-04	1-Aug-04
ALBN 111	Elementary Albanian I	Haxhiu	FrSu	1830-2130	3	202	11-Jun-04	1-Aug-04
BIOL 101	Concepts of Biology	Radenbaugh	TuTh	1830-2130	3	TBA	8-Jun-04	29-Jul-04
BMGT 364	Management & Organization Theory	TBA	FrSu	1830-2130	3	203B	11-Jun-04	1-Aug-04
ENGL291	Expository Writing	Donnellan	MoWe	0900-1200	3	202	7-Jun-04	28-Jul-04
GERM 111	Elementary German I	TBA	MoWe	0900-1200	3	301	7-Jun-04	28-Jul-04
GVPT 457	American Foreign Relation	Jonna	FrSu	1830-2130	3	303	11-Jun-04	1-Aug-04
HIST 141	Western Civilization I	TBA	FrSu	1300-1600	3	301	11-Jun-04	1-Aug-04
HIST 336	Europe in the 19th Century	TBA	FrSu	1830-2100	3	202	11-Jun-04	1-Aug-04
IFSM 201	Intro to Computer Based Systems	Deuti	SaSu	0900-1200	3	203B	12-Jun-04	1-Aug-04
MATH 012	Intermediate Algebra	Arangno	MoWe	1830-2130	3	301	7-Jun-04	28-Jul-04
MGST 140	Personal Financial Management	Denis	TuTh	0900-1200	3	301	8-Jun-04	29-Jul-04
UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND SEMINARS								
CMST100F	Databases-Access	TBA	SaSu	0800-1200	1	201A	5-Jun-04	13-Jun-04
CMST100K	Accessing info via internet	TBA	SaSu	0800-1200	1	201A	19-Jun-04	27-Jun-04
CMST100L	Web Page Design	TBA	SaSu	0800-1200	1	201A	3-Jul-04	11-Jul-04
MGST 198D	Stock Market	Denis	SuSu	0800-1700	1	202	18-Jul-04	25-Jul-04
CENTRAL TEXAS COLLEGE								
CJSA 1348	Ethics in Criminal Justice	VanSlycke	FrSu	1900-2200	3	203 A	11-Jun-04	1-Aug-04



# Religions in Kosovo

By Chaplain (Lt. Col.) Timothy Peterson

Religion in Kosovo is quite different from religion in the United States. In the United States there are many religious groups, but the differences between them don't always seem to be too significant. In Kosovo there are just three main religions, but those three are quite distinct from one another.

The three most prominent religions in Kosovo are Islam, Serbian Orthodoxy, and Roman Catholicism. The Kosovar Serbs are associated with Serbian Orthodoxy. Most of the Kosovar Albanians are Moslems (followers of Islam), but about 5% of the Kosovar Albanians are Roman Catholic.

## The Serbian Orthodox Church

In the year 1054, the Christian Church split into two parts – the Roman Catholic Church centered in Rome and the Eastern Orthodox Church centered in Constantinople. The Eastern Orthodox Church is divided into separate national churches, such as the Greek Orthodox Church, the Russian Orthodox Church, and the Serbian Orthodox Church. Though separate, all these national Orthodox Churches have a great deal of unity with one another.

The Orthodox Churches teach they have remained faithful to the original Christian message. They believe the Roman Catholic Church, together with all the Protestant Churches which developed from the Roman Catholic Church, have changed this message.

The Balkans have always been on the dividing line between Catholic and Orthodox believers. Some of the conflicts here have been caused or intensified by this division.

The historic headquarters of the Serbian Orthodox Church is in Kosovo, at a monastery near the western city of Pec/ Peje. The leader of the Serbian Orthodox Church now lives in Belgrade. The head of the Serbian Orthodox Church in Kosovo, Bishop Artemije, lives at a monastery in Gracanica/ Ulpiana.

There are Serbian Orthodox parishes where Serbs have emigrated throughout the

world. In Minnesota, for example, there are Serbian Orthodox Churches in Hibbing, Chisholm, Duluth, St. Paul, and South St. Paul.

Icons (special paintings of Jesus and the saints) are very important in the Orthodox Church. Believers meditate on icons in order to get close to God. Orthodox Churches have a divider called an iconostasis that separates the part of the sanctuary where the priest conducts much of the worship from the part of the church where the people are standing. The iconostasis often has many beautiful icons on it.

Many Serbian Orthodox Churches have five domes. The inside of the central dome has an icon of Jesus, while the domes in the four corners have icons for each of the four Gospel writers.

## The Roman Catholic Church

The Roman Catholic Bishop for Kosovo, Bishop Sopi, lives in Prizren, a city in south-eastern Kosovo.

There are not many Catholic Churches in our part of Kosovo. The largest one in our sector is at Letnica/ Letnice, on the FYROM border in the Vitina/ Viti municipality.

That Church is famous because of Mother Theresa. When she was a teenager, she traveled from her childhood home in Skopje and spent several months at this church, praying and seeking God's will. During this time, she came to believe that God had a special purpose for her life.

Every year, around August 15, there is a large pilgrimage to the Church in Letnica. Five to ten thousand people come to the Church during this time.

## Islam

Most of the people in Kosovo are followers of Islam, or Moslems. Islam is a religion that emphasizes there is only one true God, and that God is primarily known through the teaching of the Prophet Mohammed.

There is a tremendous level of diversity within Islam, just as there is a great deal of



diversity within Christianity. Some Moslems follow strict rules regarding alcohol consumption, eating pork, what women are allowed to do, how women have to dress, and the need to pray five times every day. Most of the Moslems in Kosovo do not follow these strict rules.

Islam came to Kosovo when the Ottoman Empire conquered this area in the 14th and 15th centuries. Christians were not required to convert, though Moslems were given preferential treatment. Many of the Kosovar Albanians practiced a combination of Christianity and Islam. Even today, many Moslems in Kosovo attend Christian events, such as Christmas worship and the Letnica/ Letnice pilgrimage. In other parts of the world, it's very unusual for Moslems to attend Christian celebrations.

The headquarters of the Islamic Community of Kosovo is in Pristina/ Prishtina. The organization is led by the Grand Mufti Naim Ternava.

Besides being on the dividing line between Eastern and Western Christianity, Kosovo has also been on the dividing line between the Christian world and the Moslem world. The conflict in Kosovo today is an ethnic conflict, but religion is also tied into it. Many Albanian Moslem mosques were damaged or destroyed in 1999. Many Serbian Orthodox Churches have been damaged or destroyed since 1999.

## Is Religion the Problem in Kosovo?

Some people think of religion as always being a big part of the problem in our human relationships – causing war and conflict. It's true that religion can be a problem. That's especially true in places like Kosovo, which has been a dividing line between major religions. But religion can also be a powerful force for finding solutions to human conflict.

As a Christian, I believe that Jesus came to bring peace. As a Christian I must always hear the challenge that Jesus gives me – “Blessed are those who work for peace! They shall be called the Children of God!”

The leaders of the three main religions in Kosovo met together in February 2000 and issued a statement calling for peace. Here's part of what that statement said:

- All the peoples in Kosovo have undergone enormous suffering. Thanks be to God



## Chaplain (Lt. Col.) Timothy Peterson

that the war has ended, but unfortunately there continues to be insecurity and violence. Our task now is to establish a durable peace based on truth, justice, and common living.

- Each of our traditional churches and religious communities recognizes and proclaims that the dignity of man and human value is a gift of God. Violence against persons is for us not only against man-made laws but also a breaking of God's law.

- We call on all people of good will to take responsibility for their own acts. Let us treat others as we would wish them to treat us.

May God give the people of Kosovo the strength and wisdom to turn these words into reality!



## Promotion board convenes earlier for senior NCOs

*By Sgt. 1st Class Marcia Triggs*

WASHINGTON – The sergeant first class promotion board will be held three months earlier than scheduled, and selected noncommissioned officers will start pinning on rank in February, officials said.

The promotion board was first scheduled for February, but was changed to November. The master sergeant promotion board will be held one month earlier in September instead of the originally scheduled start of October.

Convening the boards ahead of schedule ensures the Army has the right number of Soldiers in these ranks as it fights the Global War on Terrorism, said officials from the Deputy Chief of Staff for Personnel, G1.

The fiscal year 2003 sergeant first class board selected enough NCOs to meet the promotion needs for a 19-month period.

"However, the current list will be exhausted earlier than anticipated, and if we don't react it will cause a drop in readiness," said Sgt. Maj. Gerald Purcell, the Directorate Military Personnel Policy, G1 sergeant major.

Soldiers should go to the Human Resources Command Web site at [www.hrc.army.mil](http://www.hrc.army.mil) to make sure their official military file is accurate, said Master Sgt. Fred Liggett, the G1 personnel policy integrator.

"Soldiers shouldn't wait for the military personnel message to come out," Liggett said. "Most Soldiers know that they are in the zone. They can go online and check photos, awards and evaluation reports."

The deadline to update information for non-commissioned officers who are in the zone for promotion to master sergeant is Aug. 20. The deadline for those eligible for promotion to sergeant first class will be announced in a MILPER message tentatively scheduled for release in July.

The Enlisted Record and Evaluation Center will notify all Soldiers eligible for promotion consideration through their Army Knowledge Online e-mail account.

Current Army policy requires Soldiers being considered for either master sergeant or sergeant first class be graduates of the Advanced Noncommissioned Officer Course or the Basic Noncommissioned Officer Course respectively. However, Headquarters department of the Army waivers will be given for those who are unable to complete the requisite course because Human Resources Command has not scheduled them to attend school or because of a deployment, officials said.

## Students dedicate memorial at Arlington National Cemetery

*By Dennis Ryan*

WASHINGTON – While studying the design of the Vietnam Memorial 10 years ago, one member of the class at Riverside High School history class in Painesville, Ohio, saw a graphic image that would start her on a rewarding and satisfying journey.

It took 10 years for this vision to become a reality. Jodie Reckart, now 28, and her classmates were in Dr. Mary Porter's art history class and were getting ready for a high school football weekend, when an image on television changed the students' lives. The picture tube broadcast a different type of crowd; a crowd cheering and rejoicing as the body of Staff Sgt. William Cleveland was dragged through the streets of Mogadishu.

Reckart and her fellow students did not just feel sad for a moment, they acted. Their teacher, Porter, broke them up into five groups and the students came up with five ideas. One idea was to build a forty-foot red, granite pyramid with water cascading down the sides on the Mall dedicated to all who lost their lives in undeclared wars and training accidents.

The gung ho students set out to change the world and build a monument, but soon encountered a more resolute foe than *Somalian warlords* — bureaucracy.

"We stuck with it," Reckart said. "We passed (the bill) through the House twice, but each time it didn't go through the Senate. Then we found out that the Commemorative Works Act wouldn't allow the building of memorials for undeclared wars. I think we learned not to give up."

The students of the class of 1994 and the following classes fought for a memorial. The results were unveiled Tuesday morning in Section 55 of Arlington National Cemetery. A Magnolia tree and a plaque with faith, honor and virtue etched across the top. The monument and tree is also dedicated to the memory of Chief Warrant Officers Kevin L. Reichert and David Gibbs, whose Apache helicopter crashed in Albania during a training mission.

Harry Walker, 18, is one of the present students who continued his predecessors fight for a memorial.

"The idea could have come from anywhere, it just happened to come from us," Walker said. "I know our advisor said 'the Soldiers are receiving a tree, they deserve a forest.'"

Congressman Steven LaTourette and Sen. George Voinovich spearheaded the legislative efforts.

LaTourette said the "students were told, 'this is a wonderful idea but,'" he said. "We met a year ago with (Arlington National Cemetery superintendent) Jack Metzler and were told we couldn't do a big one."

Lt. Gen. Richard Cody attended and said after the ceremony how he and his aide Col. Rife were in Kosovo serving as peace-keepers when the two helicopter pilots perished in Albania. Cody presently has two sons flying Army helicopters.

"These are good young kids," Cody said. "I thought it was appropriate we were here."

There are 174 other such memorials in the cemetery and a ban on new ones was enacted five years ago. The superintendent relented and the community of Painesville had scored a victory, not for themselves, but for the memory of brave men and women.

"Every single year young people kept alive the hope of the memorial," Porter said. "Staff Sgt. William Cleveland, they dragged your body through the streets of Mogadishu, but they couldn't destroy your spirit."



# SOLDIER

## SECTION Q N' A:

**What do you miss most about home?**

**Spc. Rebekah Miller**

*"I miss coming home to my husband and house at the end of the work day."*



Photo by Spc. Tim Grooms

*Spc. Rebekah Miller, right, a chaplain assistant with Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 34th Infantry Division, watches her partner, Swedish Chaplain (Capt.) Jonas Johnson toss a throwing baton during the Swedish game of Kubb.*

**Sgt. Eric Post**



Photo by Spc. Luke Rollins

*"I would have to say the thing I miss the most about home is my kids. I have a two-year-old, six-year-old and 11-year-old. The children will all have aged a year since I left and I can already tell changes in the little ones."*

*Sgt. Eric C. Post, a flight medic with the 1085th Medical Company (Air Ambulance) and an avid runner, rounds a corner at the Camp Bondsteel track.*

**Warrant Officer Simonyan Mnatsakan**

*"I am married. I have a wife and daughter. I miss them the most. I'm supposed to go home in August, just in time for the birth of my son and my daughter's second birthday."*



Photo by Spc. Luke Rollins

*Armenian Warrant Officer Simonyan Mnatsakan, an infantryman assigned to the Greek 525th Mechanized Infantry Battalion, provides security near the KFOR bypass at the border of Kosovo and the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia.*

**Staff Sgt. Bruce Conger**



Photo by Spc. Tim Grooms

*Staff Sgt. Bruce Conger, a flight medic with the 1085th Medical Company (Air Ambulance), demonstrates how to use an extraction device during recent medical evacuation training.*

*"I miss my two brand new granddaughters that I have not had the opportunity to hold yet."*



# Scenes of Kosovo

Photo by Spc. Luke Rollins



Dogs enjoy the benefits of KFOR's presence near a Greek checkpoint.